

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been canceled. Claim 8 has been added. Claims 4-7 are withdrawn from further consideration. Thus, claims 2, 3 and 8 are pending in this application.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his acknowledgement that claims 2 and 3 are directed to allowable subject matter and “would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.” Office Action at 4, lines 14-15. Responding to the Examiner’s suggestion, claims 2 and 3 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitation of claim 1, which is the base claim of claims 2 and 3. The amendments of claims 2 and 3 do not narrow their scope and include no new matter. Thus, Applicant believes the objection to claims 2 and 3 should be withdrawn. Further, Applicant submits that because claim 8 is dependent from allowable claim 2, it is allowable for at least the same reasons.

Further, in his “reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter,” the Examiner stated that “Inoue does not suggest the use of 30 to 50 mol percent *Aluminum* in the composition.” Office Action at 5, lines 5-6 (emphasis added). Although the statement of the Examiner is correct, it seems to Applicant that the Examiner intended to refer to “*palladium* with a rate of 30 mol% to 50mol%,” which is recited in claim 2, rather than aluminum with a rate of 30 mol % to 50 mol% which does not appear in any claim.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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Respectfully submitted,

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